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STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE
STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

22 June 1951

INFORMATION CIRCULAR #2

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CIVIL DEFENSE LOYALTY OATHS

1. Both the Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950 and the State Council of Civil Defense Act of 1951 require that all persons employed or associated in any capacity in any civil defense organization shall take a loyalty oath in writing before entering upon his or her duties.

2. In order to simplify the swearing, or affirmation, of the required oath, the State Council of Civil Defense, by formal resolution, has granted the following civil defense authorities within the Commonwealth the power to administer the oath without charge, namely:

(a) The directors, deputy directors, executive directors and coordinators of civil defense of any and all political subdivisions (counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns and townships);

(b) The heads of divisions, districts, regions, zones and sections of any and all duly authorized civil defense organizations;

(c) Building, block and post wardens of any and all duly authorized civil defense organizations; and

(d) Senior officials at each police station and fire house.

3. The oath sworn to, or affirmed, by civil defense workers shall be substantially as follows:

"I,_____, do solemnly swear (or affirm)
(name of individual)
that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania against all enemies, foreign and domestic;

that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter;

"And I do further swear (or affirm) that I do not advocate nor am I a member or an affiliate of any organization, group or combination of persons that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States or of this State by force or violence, and that during such time as I am a member of the _____ (name of civil defense organization) I will not advocate nor become a member nor an affiliate of any organization, group or combination of persons that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or of this State by force or violence."

4. All civil defense loyalty oaths must be dated and signed by each individual volunteer. They must also be witnessed by a duly empowered authority whose signature and title must also appear on the oath.

5. The loyalty oaths taken by all civil defense volunteers shall be kept on permanent file in the office of their respective local civil defense organization.

6. In the event that printed or mimeographed oath forms cannot be obtained locally, the State Council of Civil Defense will furnish limited numbers of the blanks upon request.

Richard Gerstell

Richard Gerstell
Director of Civil Defense